network of Community Health Centres (CHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Sub-Centres (SCs) system. 146026 Sub-centres, 23236 PHCs and 346 CHCs are functioning in the country as on September, 2005.

(b) to (d) Monthly Health Days are being organized in every village at the Anganwadi centres, where health education is provided to women and children, especially belonging to the vulnerable section. Besides under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) every village with a population of 1000 is to have a Female Health activist called ASHA in 10 States who along with health and anganwadi functionaries would provide health education to women including those belonging to the weaker sections.

Apart from this the Central & State Governments are creating mass awareness through the electronics & print media, AIR, news letters, posters and pamphlets.

Bringing co-operation among Medical Education Sector

3740. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medical colleges in both Government and private sector, State-wise;

(b) what steps Government are taking to bring about great co-operation and understanding between it and the medical education sector; and

(c) the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) At present total 244 medical colleges are functioning in the country, State-wise number of medical colleges in Government Sector and Private Sector is given in the statement at Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) It has been constant endeavor of the government of India to establish continuous channel of communication with Medical Education sector with the objective of improving standards of Medical Education in contemporary set up. With this aim in sight a meeting with various stakeholder in Medical Education Sector was con ducted at the level of HFM on 31.3.2005 and many important issues were deliberated in detail.

Recently on 27.4.2006, a meeting with State governments was held to discuss the issues pertaining to Medical Education Sector in detail. The Government has also introduced IMC amendment bill 2005 in the Parliament with the intension to make the Medical Council of India more representative in character and to facilitate better coordination between MCI and State Councils to assure that views of ME Sector from across the country are considered while taking any decision regarding Medical Education.

Statement

Number of Medical Colleges in the Country State-wise as on 17-5-2006

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total number of Medical College		Total	Total number of seats
		Govt./Uni.	Private		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	21	31	3925
2.	Assam	3	-	3	391
3.	Bihar	6	2	8	510
4.	Chandigarh	1	-	1	50
5.	Chhattisgarh	2	-	2	200
6.	Delhi	5	-	5	560
7.	Goa	1	-	1	100
8.	Gujarat	8	5	13	1625
9.	Haryana	1	2	3	350
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2	-	2	115
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	1	4	350
12.	Jharkhand	3	-	3	190
13.	Karnataka	4	28	32	4005
14.	Kerala	6	9	15	1650
15.	Madhya Pradesh	5	3	8	970
16.	Maharashtra	19	20	39	4410
17.	Manipur	1	-	1	100
18.	Orissa	3	1	4	464

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Pondicherry	1	5	6	625
20.	Punjab	3	3	6	520
21.	Rajasthan	6	2	8	800
22.	Sikkim	1	-	1	100
23.	Tamil Nadu	14	9	23	2665
24.	Tripura	1	-	1	100
25.	Uttar Pradesh	9	4	13	1412
26.	Uttaranchal	-	2	2	200
27.	West Bengal	9	-	9	1105
	TOTAL :	127	117	244	27492

Rating scheme for Hospitals

3741. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to launch the scheme of hospital ratings in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme along with the parameters on which the hospitals are being rated;

(c) whether the scheme will be made compulsory for all hospitals; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (d) There are various mechanisms by which quality of services and care provided by hospitals and other health care institutions can be assessed. Some of these are Accreditation, Certification and Rating. Concerned health institutions obtain there quality benchmarks depending on their own requirement and the requirement of clients they serve. Government of India is of the view that Accreditation etc. is to be purely a voluntary process and, therefore, should be left to independent specialist agencies outside the Government set up. There can also be more than one agency that could undertake such accreditation, certification or rating. Such